



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Newcastle Field Office
1101 Washington Boulevard
Newcastle, Wyoming 82701-2968



December 10, 2008

Memorandum

To: Project Proponent

From: Newcastle Field Office, Field Manager

Subject: Wildlife Survey Criteria

In an effort to improve customer service, provide timely processing of proposed projects and comply with Federal Regulations, proponents are requested to supply wildlife surveys for the species listed in Wildlife Survey Criteria*. Surveys may be completed by the Newcastle Field Office at the request of the proponent; due to workload, project proponents may experience significant delays based on habitat and species specific survey requirements. Proponents are encouraged to contact the Newcastle Field Office early in the planning process as surveys for all species may not be required for the proposed project.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA, Sec. 1701 (a) (8)) directs the BLM to manage land in a manner that will provide food and habitat for fish and wildlife while providing for multiple uses. Federal agencies also have wildlife management responsibilities in accordance with the Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act and other legislation. Surveys to document presence or absence of special status species are one step in the wildlife and habitat management process.

The BLM requires clearance and or/surveys for authorized activities in areas known or suspected to be essential habitat for animal and plants classified as threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate, or other special status species. These clearance and surveys will be done in accordance with BLM and FWS guidelines, as appropriate, to verify the presence or absence of these species. All clearances shall be performed prior to activity implementation.

Properly timed and documented surveys will decrease the application processing time frames, and protect wildlife.

If you have questions please contact Nathaniel West, Wildlife Biologist, Newcastle Field Office at 307-746-6600.

*Available on the BLM Newcastle Field Office Website